

REMARKS

The Examiner, in the Office Action of January 12, 2007, indicates as follows:

Claims 1-2 and 4-7 are rejected under the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sergeant et al. (5627616), (hereinafter referred to as "Sergeant") in view of Kawai (6414716).

Claims 3 and 8 are rejected under the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sergeant in view of Kawai (6414716) in further view of Takagi et al. (6809760).

In response to the Examiner's indication in the Office Action, the claims 1 and 8 have been amended.

The present invention defined in the amended claim 1 is patentable over Sergeant in view of Kawai by the following reason.

The surveillance camera apparatus is defined in amended claim 1 as comprising:

- (a) a camera unit for taking an image of a specific object;
- (b) a camera retaining assembly for retaining said camera unit, said camera unit being movable with respect to said camera retaining assembly to a destined position and posture;
- (c) a micro-computer unit for producing a position signal indicative of said destined position and posture, said micro-computer unit being operative to take two different operation states consisting of a regular state to produce a regular state signal indicative of said regular state for every first predetermined time interval, and an irregular state not to produce said position signal;
- (d) a resetting unit for resetting said micro-computer unit to take said regular state from said irregular state in response to engagement with said camera unit;
- (e) a camera driving unit for driving said camera unit to move with respect to said camera retaining assembly;
- (f) a camera drive control unit for controlling said camera driving unit to have said camera driving unit drive said camera unit to move with respect to said camera retaining assembly, said camera drive control unit being operative to take two different control states consisting of a first control state under which said camera unit is driven to move to said destined position and posture represented by said position signal produced by said micro-computer unit, and a second control state under which said camera unit is driven to move into engagement with said resetting unit to have said micro-computer unit to be reset; and
- (g) a control state setting unit for setting said camera drive control unit to take said first

control state when receiving said regular state signal from said micro-computer unit within a second predetermined time interval longer than said first predetermined interval, while setting said camera drive control unit to take said second control state when not receiving said regular state signal from said micro-computer unit within said second predetermined time interval.

From the elements (d)-(g) forming part of the surveillance camera apparatus defined in amended claim 1, it will be understood that the surveillance camera apparatus has an advantage over the prior art in reducing the operation time and lessening the laborious task for the operator to reset the micro-computer unit .

The Examiner indicates that the Sergeant discloses surveillance camera systems comprising a camera unit, a camera retaining assembly, and camera driving unit, and Kawai discloses a micro-computer unit, a camera drive control unit, and "setting the camera drive control unit to take a first control state when receiving the regular state signal while setting the drive control unit to take the second state when not receiving the regular state signal.

The amended claim 1 includes the elements (d)-(g) for resetting the frozen micro-computer without the operation of the operator, such as pushing a reset button. In the surveillance camera apparatus defined in the amended claim 1, when the micro-computer is frozen, the camera unit is driven by the camera driving unit (under control of the camera drive control unit taking the second control state) to move into engagement with the resetting unit. As a result, the frozen micro-computer is reset by the resetting unit.

In contrast, each of Sergeant and Kawai fails to disclose the elements, such as the elements (d)-(g), for resetting the frozen micro-computer without the operation of the operator. It is therefore believed that the surveillance camera apparatus defined in the amended claim 1 is completely different in construction and advantage from the disclosure of the Sergeant in view of Kawai.

The claims 2-7 are dependent on the amended claim 1, and the claim 8 includes the surveillance camera apparatus comprising the elements included in the amended claim 1. The claims 2-8 are, therefore, patentable over Sergeant in view of Kawai by the above reason.

In view of the foregoing description, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is thus in condition for allowance.

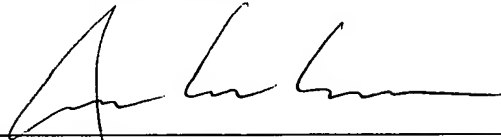
Appl. No. 10/615,700
Amdt. dated March 19, 2007
Reply to Office action of Jan. 12, 2007

If any fees are required by this communication, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, Order No. 35847.

Respectfully submitted,

PEARNE & GORDON LLP

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James M. Moore', written over a horizontal line.

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